

Peaches

Number of Orchards & Trees: The number of commercial fruit growers with peaches decreased from 384 in 1997 to 273 in 2002. The number of growers with 100 or more peach trees decreased 31 percent from 331 to 229 in 2000. The total number of peach trees, both commercial and non-commercial, at 402,117 fell 31 percent from the 1997 figure of 585,391. Growers with 5,000 or more trees totaled only 7 percent of the total number of growers but had 50 percent of the trees.

Acreage in Orchards: Peach acreage totaled 3,475 acres in 2002, a decrease of 36 percent from the 1997 figure of 5,388 acres. Trees per acre increased from 109 in 1997 to 115 in 2002. Many operations were affected by the Plum Pox Virus that was first found in the state during 1999. Since the first discovery, acreage has dropped dramatically as trees are destroyed to prevent further

transmission of the disease. The south central area of the state was affected the most.

Location of Trees: Fruit Region I led all regions in Pennsylvania with 233,762 peach trees, or 58 percent of the total. The three leading counties are Adams, Berks and York.

Age of Trees: Of the 402,117 total peach trees, 19 percent are 1 to 3 years old; 21 percent are 4 to 6 years old; 55 percent are 7 to 21 years old; and 5 percent are 22 years or older.

Varieties: Babygold is the leading variety for Pennsylvania in 2002 with 49,985 trees, or 12.4 percent. Other leading varieties as a percent of total trees are: Redhaven, 12.0; Loring, 7.6; and Cresthaven, 5.9.

Pennsylvania: Peaches (Commercial) - Comparison of Orchards, Tree Numbers and Acres by Region 1992, 1997 and 2002 ¹

Region	Number of Orchards			Number of Trees			Number of Acres		
	1992	1997	2002	1992	1997	2002	1992	1997	2002
I	145	129	78	435,773	369,133	232,566	3,986	3,445	2,015
II	103	102	68	141,636	129,529	95,885	1,344	1,144	854
III	73	57	49	71,657	60,954	44,438	663	567	394
IV & V	40	43	34	20,249	23,297	26,443	170	188	187
Pennsylvania	361	331	229	669,315	582,913	399,332	6,163	5,344	3,450

¹ Excludes orchards with less than 100 peach trees.

Pennsylvania: Peaches (Commercial) - Number and Size of Orchards by Region, 1992, 1997 and 2002 ¹

Region	Number of Orchards			Number of Peach Orchards by Size Groups											
				100 - 499 Trees			500 - 2,499 Trees			2,500 - 4,999 Trees			5,000 + Trees		
	1992	1997	2002	1992	1997	2002	1992	1997	2002	1992	1997	2002	1992	1997	2002
I	145	129	78	37	40	24	57	51	31	24	22	8	27	16	15
II	103	102	68	46	47	31	44	43	28	8	8	6	5	4	3
III	73	57	49	37	27	22	31	25	25	4	4	1	1	1	1
IV & V	40	43	34	27	28	18	13	14	15	-	1	1	-	-	-
Pennsylvania	361	331	229	147	142	95	145	133	99	36	35	16	33	21	19

¹ Excludes orchards with less than 100 peach trees.

